

## CHAPTER III

### RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This chapter presents the procedure used in conducting the research. It covers research design, population and sample, research instrument, data collection, and data analysis.

#### 3.1 Research Design

Ary (2010: 32) stated that 'design is the researcher's plan for the study, which includes the method to be used, what data will be gathered, where, how, and from whom'. It indicates that the research design is the plan to gather any information related to the research. So, it is important to discuss research design as the starting point in this chapter knowing the facts of its function.

Following the statement, descriptive type of research was used for this present study, because this research investigated the condition of certain group of people. As stated in Cohen et al (2007: 205), descriptive research is concerned with how *what is* or *what exists* is related to some preceding event that has influenced or affected a present condition or event. It indicates that descriptive research concerns with what it is or how it exists related to some preceding event that has influenced or affected a present condition or even. The data were collected in the form of words. As stated in Frankel & Wallen (2004: 423), qualitative data are collected in the form of words or pictures rather than numbers. Therefore, this research could be categorized as qualitative one. Reviewing on this information, descriptive qualitative design was suitable to use in this present study

because this study focussed on errors of using tenses in writing descriptive text made by the eight graders of SMP 8 Muhammadiyah Batu.

### **3.2 Population and Sample**

A population is defined as all members of any well-defined class of people, events, or object. In other words, a population is the large group about which the generalization is made (Ary, et. al: 2010). It is the group that the researcher wants to get information and obtain the data. The population of this study was the eight graders of SMP 8 Muhammadiyah Batu. It is divided into four classes namely A, B, C, and D.

Ary (2010: 148) defines that a sample is any subject of population that is observed. In this study, the researcher applied cluster random sampling technique to determine the sample. It was the simplest way to draw the population in order to give an equal opportunity of every member of the population. According to Ary, cluster sampling is the process of selecting a sample based on the chosen unit which is not an individual but, rather, a group of individuals who are naturally together (2010: 154). In this research, the researcher took randomly among 4 classes, and I class appeared as the sample which was chosen randomly. It consisted of 20 students. Thus, the sample was 25% of the population.

### **3.3 Research Instrument**

Instrument in a research has to be used in order to collect the data. In this research, the researcher used document as material to collect the data. The documents were the result of writing descriptive test . As mentioned by Ary,

documents refer to a wide range of written, physical, and visual materials, including what other authors may term artifacts (2010: 442). By using document, there is no deceitfulness in collecting the data because it was truly the students' writing. However, the students did not realize that their writing were used as the data. On the other hand, they liked to express their ideas.

### **3.4 Data Collection**

The data in the study were students' writing about descriptive paragraph. The data were gathered by counting the errors made by each of the students. To collect the data, the researcher used the following procedures:

1. Collecting the students' results of writing descriptive text after instructing them make descriptive text.
2. Identifying the students' grammatical errors in using tenses in writing descriptive by reading each sentence and classifying them.
3. Asking to three raters to investigate the errors of the students' writing descriptive texts. In this case, the three raters were one teacher of English and two English Department graduates who were competent in English subject. The three raters were chosen because they were capable in grammar.
4. Listing the sentences which contained grammatical error in using tenses in writing descriptive.

### 3.5 Data Analysis

The data were grammatical errors found in result of the document of the students' writing. After being collected, the data processing procedures were carried out as the following steps:

1. Analyzing the grammatical errors in students' writing based on the tenses formulas.
2. Analyzing the most grammatical errors in using tenses found based on the correct tenses formulas.
3. Interpreting and describing the results of analysis in narrative description using words.
4. Concluding the results of analysis

